



# Wisconsin Crop Weather

Compiled by the Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service

June 16, 2003

Vol. 03, No. 11

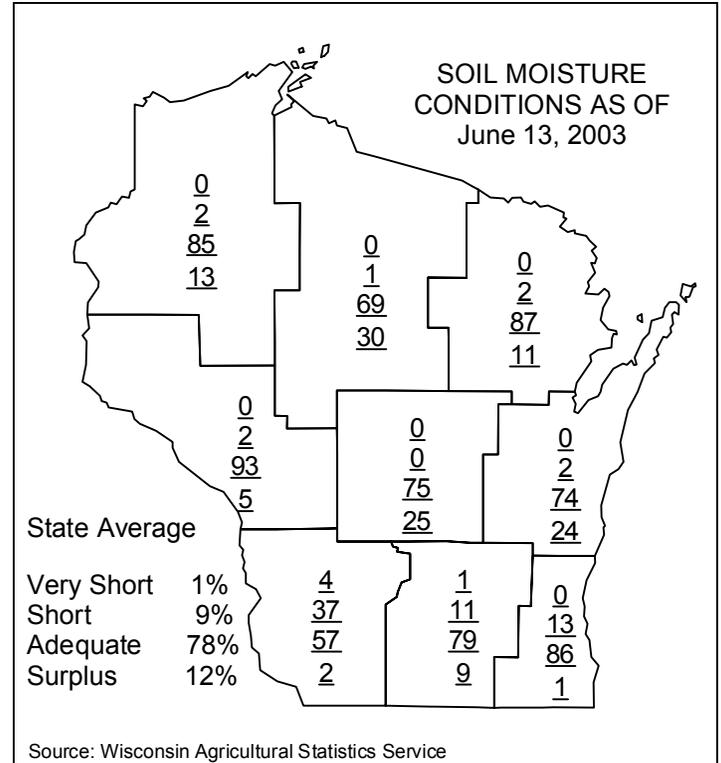
## Cool Weather Continues

Summer seems to be slow in arriving in Wisconsin this year. Welcome rains started the week off around the state. Most of the spring planting is near completion. Rains continued over the upper two-thirds of the state and totaled over 2 inches in some areas. The lower third of the state missed most of the precipitation late in the week, and is falling behind in moisture levels. There were an average of 4.3 days suitable for fieldwork last week, but varied widely across the state. Soil moisture conditions were rated as 1% very short, 9% short, 78% adequate, and 12% surplus. Temperatures were 2 to 6 degrees cooler than normal for the week, continuing a six-week trend of below normal temperatures. Clouds and cool nights contributed to slowing the pace of the growing season. Pasture field conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 5% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 12% excellent.

With planting mostly completed, **alfalfa** harvest was one of the next priorities for farmers. First cutting hay harvest reached 49% complete. This compared to 40% last year and 60% complete for the 5-year average. The cloudy conditions early in the week made for difficult drying weather for baled hay, but haylage and bagging of alfalfa were going full steam. Yields in some parts of Wisconsin were light due to winterkill and cool weather. **Winter wheat** was beginning to head out in southern Wisconsin. The crop condition was reported as 1% very poor, 3% poor, 26% fair, 56% good, and 14% excellent. **Oats** are not far behind in heading out. Grant County reported that wheat and oats are both standing well and look good.

**Corn** was mostly emerged across the state. The crop was slow in coming out of the ground, and the average height of corn was at 6 inches, behind both last year and the 5-year average. Overall corn crop condition was rated as 1% very poor, 4% poor, 24% fair, 57% good, and 14% excellent. **Soybeans** were emerging rapidly with adequate moisture levels. Soybeans emerged were at 77%, closely behind last year and the 5-year average.

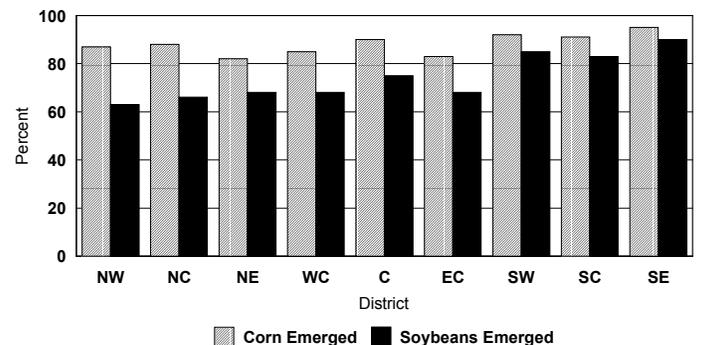
**Strawberries** and **raspberries** were reported to look great in Washburn County. The crop is behind normal development for this time of year, though. Early **peas** were near harvest in Columbia County. **Tobacco** transplanting was continuing in Dane County. **Potato** planting was completed in Vilas County.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of June 13, 2003

Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent				
Pasture	1	5	26	56	12
Winter wheat	1	3	26	56	14
Oat	1	3	18	62	16
Corn	1	4	24	57	14
Soybeans	1	4	19	64	12

## Percentage of Corn and Soybeans Emerged By District, June 15, 2003



## Wisconsin Crop Progress, June 15, 2003

Crop and percent of acreage	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This year	Last year	5-year average
Oats headed	2	1	7	21	13	13	35	26	20	17	11	20
Corn emerged	87	88	82	85	90	83	92	91	95	89	90	93
Average height of corn	5	4	5	6	5	5	7	8	6	6	7	10
Soybeans emerged	63	66	68	68	75	68	85	83	90	77	82	84
First cutting hay	36	33	26	50	50	40	67	67	55	49	40	60

**Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents**

**POLK-C.S.:** Corn and soybeans are planted, fields vary quite a bit in population and in appearance. Seeing a few leafhoppers in hayfields. Alfalfa yields are fair on new seedings, but poor in older stands.

**WASHBURN-R.H.:** Corn needs warmer weather. Small grains look good. Hay crop is growing with all the rain, with some weed problems.

**ONEIDA-P.L.:** Cool weather has crops about two weeks behind. Hay appears to be late and short. Corn is slow, as nights are cool, and the days are in the low 70's. Grains look pretty good so far. Alfalfa is sparse in some fields, as winterkill and frost/ice damage is showing up, and grass is taking over.

**VILAS-L.K.:** Potatoes are all in. Oats are up, but coming slow. Need warmer nights. Pastures and hayfields looking good.

**OCONTO-K.H.:** Corn and soybeans look good. Small grains progressing well. No heads seen yet. Hay harvest is proceeding. Yields appear to be variable due to variability of stands.

**JACKSON-W.E.:** Hay quality is not too good due to weeds and winterkill. Corn is short due to cold weather.

**MONROE-B.D.:** The recent rain perked everything up. Corn took the biggest jump. Haying came to a stop, and second crop hay is off to a good start. There is still a lot of first crop hay to make.

**PORTAGE-D.Z.:** Alfalfa being cut when weather allows. Corn pretty much at a standstill. Still some soybeans and a little corn being planted.

**WOOD-F.M.:** Rains slowed hay harvest, but helped corn and soybeans. First crop hay still reported to vary in quality due to slow growth of legumes and winterkill. Early-planted corn shows damage from cool temperatures and slow germination.

**BROWN-D.S.:** Crops are generally looking good. Wet soil conditions and high humidity is slowing first crop hay harvest.

**OUTAGAMIE-K.J.:** Corn emergence has been uneven and poor in some fields. Corn is relatively short compared to past years. Uneven soybean emergence exists, and some fields needed re-planting because of large bare areas. Late-planted corn and soybeans do not exhibit these conditions as much. Hay crop tested in the 140 RFV range early in the week.

Forage council alfalfa test plots recorded about 1.5 tons of dry matter. Many producers were forced to keep marginal stands, which means that they will not have as high of yields, and will probably consider planting silage corn, even though it is kind of late.

**IOWA-K.V.R.:** Crops continue to show stress as the soil moisture decreases. First cutting alfalfa was good. Starting to find soybean leaf beetle, alfalfa leafhoppers, and weevils.

**RICHLAND-S.K.:** For the most part, the soybean and corn crops look good. We did have some slow emergence on the soybeans and did some replanting in low population soybean fields. For the most part, crops look very good. The cloudy weather slowed down the harvest of alfalfa. Most of the haylage is in storage and what is left, is being baled. We have had a couple of outbreaks of armyworms on no-tilled corn.

**DANE-J.K.:** Corn and soybeans look alright, but only very early crops are turning green and growing; the rest is just setting there. Oats and wheat look like it will be shorter and less straw, but should be good test weight and yield. Field conditions are good, not soft in hayfields. Quantity of first crop hay is down to about 2 1/2 tons per acre on dry. Quality of alfalfa is very good. Finally saw some buds on the alfalfa.

**ROCK-C.H.:** Lacking in rain and warm weather. Most of corn looks good.

**WALWORTH-E.P.:** Some corn almost knee-high. The last of the hay is done. Winter wheat slow in heading out. Some sun will perk up the crops.

**WAUKESHA-D.W.:** Most all corn and soybeans are planted. First cutting of hay going full speed ahead. Still cool at night. Soybeans and corn need heat.



Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics Service  
P.O. Box 8934  
Madison, WI 53708-8934  
(608) 224-4848  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/rlsetoc.htm>

**Robert J. Battaglia**  
State Statistician

**Bob Hunter**  
Statistician

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.

**Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on June 15, 2003**

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation			
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to June 14	Mar. 1 to June 14 normal *	Last week	Since June 1	June 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date
Eau Claire	74	53	84	48	64	-2	716	650	1.38	2.12	0.14	13.00
Green Bay	69	54	79	52	62	-2	519	571	1.87	2.74	1.22	11.76
La Crosse	76	56	84	51	66	-3	757	741	0.98	1.64	-0.08	11.66
Madison	74	55	81	53	64	-2	648	730	0.23	0.40	-1.41	9.64
Milwaukee	68	51	74	47	59	-6	456	n.a.	0.79	0.88	-0.66	9.58

1/Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°. \*Normal based on 1961-90 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>>. N.a. = not available. T = trace.